



Australian Bureau of Statistics

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2006 Census to Recruit Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Collectors

The largest stage of recruitment for the 2006 Census will begin on Saturday. The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) is looking for about 26,000 workers Australia-wide to deliver and collect Census forms.

A key focus for Census 2006 is ensuring that Collectors' backgrounds reflect the diversity of Australia's people. The ABS is interested, in particular, in recruiting Collectors of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander backgrounds, to work not only in rural and regional areas, but also within the big city and urban communities.

Collectors are the human face of the Census process and will deal directly with the public. Collectors will become a familiar sight in the lead up to the Census of 8 August. With their bright yellow bags they will deliver Census forms to 10 million households across the nation.

Collectors are employed from 30 June until September 9. Collectors work part-time. Most will be paid between \$800 and \$1,500 depending on the workload.

The Census is about all Australians, making each individual and their communities count. People from all walks of life have become Collectors in the past, including retired people, community workers, part time workers and stay-at-home parents, Paul Williams, Census head said.

We are keen to recruit members of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities. Collectors from these backgrounds will gather Census information from all homes in their allocated area, including Indigenous households.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander background Collectors will bring to the Census their unique community knowledge and understanding. Personally each Collector also will benefit through the knowledge that they have participated in a project that will have benefit for their communities and experience working on a national project.

Census information is used for a range of planning purposes. For example, the Census figures will help with the allocation of funding for things like housing, education, health and community services. Additionally community organisations and councils can use the Census information for funding applications and services.

To apply for employment go to www.abs.gov.au/recruitment or call 1300 236 787. Applications close on 5 May.

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